

Senate Bill 584

By: Senators Jones of the 10th, Douglas of the 17th and Starr of the 44th

AS PASSED

AN ACT

To amend an Act creating a State Court of Henry County, approved March 27, 1998 (Ga. L. 1998, p. 3954), as amended, particularly by an Act approved April 25, 2002 (Ga. L. 2002, p. 4662), so as to provide an additional judge for the State Court of Henry County; to provide for the appointment of the initial additional judge; to provide for the election of successors; to provide for terms of office of said additional judge and successors to such judge; to provide for the compensation and expenses of said additional judge; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

SECTION 1.

An Act creating a State Court of Henry County, approved March 27, 1998 (Ga. L. 1998, p. 3954), as amended, particularly by an Act approved April 25, 2002 (Ga. L. 2002, p. 4662), is amended by striking Section 11 in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof a new Section 11 to read as follows:

"SECTION 11.

(a) Until July 1, 2006, there shall be two judges of the State Court of Henry County. The judges of the state court in office on January 1, 2006, shall continue to serve the terms of office to which they were elected and until the election and qualification of their successors.

(b) Effective July 1, 2006, there shall be three judges of the State Court of Henry County. The third judge added effective July 1, 2006, shall be appointed by the Governor for an initial term of office ending on December 31, 2008, and until his or her successor is elected and qualified. The successor to said judge shall be elected by the qualified voters of Henry County at a nonpartisan election to be held and conducted jointly with the general election in 2008 and quadrennially thereafter pursuant to Code Section 21-2-138 of the O.C.G.A. The

judge thus elected shall serve a four-year term until such officer's successor is elected and qualified.

(c) The judges of said court shall have such qualifications and shall be subject to such restrictions and discipline as provided in Chapter 7 of Title 15 of the O.C.G.A. Said judges shall be vested with the power and authority of the judges of the state courts by Chapter 7 of Title 15 of the O.C.G.A.

(d) The judges shall devote their full time to the duties of said office and shall be paid a salary equal to 90 percent of the salary now or hereafter paid to the judges of the Superior Court of Henry County. Said salary shall be payable out of the funds of Henry County at the same intervals as installments are paid to other county employees.

(e) The judge of the State Court of Henry County who has served the longest period of time in office as judge of said court shall be the chief judge of the State Court of Henry County."

SECTION 2.

All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.